



The Inferno

The Newsletter of Greystone Centennial Middle School



Principal's Message

Mr. Anil Padayas

Hello Greystone School Community!

Spring is here, or at least it feels like it right now and daylight savings time has occurred. Days are getting longer and the weather is certainly getting better, however, it can still be chilly at morning recess and the weather can change suddenly. Students should still make sure that they have a coat, appropriate footwear, and are dressed for the weather.

Term 2 Report Cards are available on PowerSchool. Please take a minute to read. If there are any changes that need to be made to contact information etc. please do so.



Thank you to everyone who took the time to attend Parent-Teacher Conferences virtually last week. If you could not get a scheduled time, please email the teacher for an alternate conference time.

Thank you to all those parents who have completed the Greystone Centennial Middle School survey. The Alberta Education Assurance survey for Grade 7 parents and students will be available shortly, We appreciate you taking the time to complete these surveys which will help guide our school to improvements in helping our students be successful in their education.

Be well and have a safe and happy Spring Break!

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Visit us: greystone.psd70.ab.ca

GCMS Reminders and Updates

VISITORS AND GUESTS

All visitors to Greystone are asked to wear a mask, check-in at the office, and sign in and complete the COVID-19 screen if necessary.

SIGNING OUT YOUR CHILD

If you are picking up your child early, please come into the office to sign out your child. You may be asked to show identification.

CONTACTING YOUR CHILD

Just a reminder, that if you would like to get in touch with your child please feel free to contact the school office and we will happily pass the message on to them.

We are trying to minimize distractions to the learning environment from personal devices. As such it is expected that cell phones and other personal devices will remain in lockers during instructional time.

Homeroom begins at 9:00am and the final bell rings at 3:45pm. Student break times are from 11:05-11:20 (Gr 5, 7, 9), 11:25-11:40 (Gr. 6 & 8) and 12:45-1:45.

LOST AND FOUND

If you are missing a jacket or sweatshirt, ask your child to check the lost and found. Smaller items, such as phones etc. are turned in at the office.



School Council

Our GMCS School Council meets once a month from approximately 6:30-7:30 pm. All parents are welcome to join us to learn more about the school. School Council provides the Greystone Administration Team with parent and community perspectives, enabling decision-making that meets the needs of home and school.

We are currently looking for someone to hold a variety of executive and volunteer positions. It is a great opportunity to work with a wonderful team. Elections will be held in May so if you are interested, please watch for more information.

If you are not ready for an executive position, but would still like to be involved, you are welcome to attend a meeting to hear information and participate in the discussion. There are always lots of volunteer positions as well!

For more information, please contact the school or visit our website for more details.

Virtual Learning Options for 2021-2022

Parkland School Division is already busy planning and preparing for the 2021-2022 school year, which can be challenging, considering the unknowns that are associated with the COVID-19 pandemic.

Parkland School Division is pleased to offer a Virtual Learning option for families in the upcoming school year. Launched in September 2020, Virtual Learning is a teacher-directed program, supported by the staff from Connections for Learning, that allows students to work full-time from home using virtual learning tools and remote access to content.

The Virtual Learning program will be the primary option for families choosing to remain at home while still accessing school-division support. It is a full-time program, requiring a full-year commitment. Those families currently in Option 2 who wish to continue with an at-home online program similar to this year, will have their online needs met by registering for school at Connections for Learning in the Virtual Learning program.

Please note, there will be no multiple set re-entry dates to return to in-class delivery.



Alberta Education Assurance Survey

At Parkland School Division, and Greystone Centennial Middle School we are committed to engaging with our community on behalf of the students we serve. Meaningful Engagement is one of our Enduring Priorities you'll find in many parts of our Division's Education Plan.

Alberta Education's Assurance Framework provides the basis for accountability and public assurance in the Kindergarten to Grade 12 education system. To support the framework, the provincial government collects survey data on behalf of schools and school authorities to assess our learning goals as schools, school authorities and as a provincial government. The survey results are combined with those from other measures to provide key information about how the education system is doing. It allows everyone – parents, teachers, school authorities, students and the province – to celebrate successes and respond to challenges together

Our GCMS Grade 7 teachers, students, and all staff will be completing this survey. If you are a Gr. 7 parent you should have received a random access code to complete the survey online. <https://public.education.alberta.ca/APOS/>.

Thank you for participating in this activity. Your input is appreciated!



GCMS School Council & F.O.G.S News

Spring is in the air and we are very excited about our Kiwi Nurseries fundraiser! From April 8-30th there will be an online store at <https://fundraising.kiwinurseries.com> (select Friends of Greystone). You order fantastic houseplants, seeds, outdoor plants, decor items or gift cards, pay online and pick up your items at the nursery. Orders will be ready before the May long weekend. We will have a flyer going out after Spring Break. We are also excited about Wilhawk Beef Jerky orders. The order forms will be going out on April 19th with a May 7th deadline. Orders will be available for pick up at the Willhawk store on May 14th and 15th. Support our local businesses, school and get ready for the long weekend with amazing BBQ meat and beautiful flowers!



We would love to expand our council and fundraising society with more volunteers and are looking to you. Come to our next virtual council meeting and see how it runs. You can also pair up with a current member and find out more about how we operate and about our ongoing working relationship with Greystone Schools leadership team. What is important to you and your child's school experience? We will have a few positions opening up for next year and this is the perfect time to see how they run. We are holding virtual G-Meets once a month and our next meeting is on April 20th at 6:30 pm. The link to join will be on the Greystone school calendar so look for it on the school website. If you have any questions please feel free to contact any of us on School Council or FOGS (Friends of Greystone Society), our emails are on the school's website.

Sincerely,

Kaeli Weir Greystone.SCChair@psd70.ab.ca



About Kiwi Fundraising

Kiwi Nurseries Ltd. is excited to partner with your school through Kiwi Fundraising. By shopping our online fundraiser store, a portion of each sale (20-30%) will go towards reaching your school's fundraising goal.

How it Works

- Kiwi Fundraising has set up an online store under your school's name.
- Your school's online store will be open for orders April 8th - April 30th.
- Through your school's store, supporters can browse and order from the comfort and safety of their own homes.
- There are no minimum purchasing requirements.
- Upon the completion of each order, the buyer's contact information will be taken. When the order or part of an order is ready for pick up, the customer will be notified by email.
- All items will be ready for pick up at the nursery by the May long weekend.

Our Spring Selection

This spring we are featuring veggies, herbs, hardy outdoor plant material, decor, houseplants, succulents, and gift cards for purchase. Check out your school's online store for our full product selection.



For More Information

Please visit the online store or contact us at
 Kiwi Nurseries Ltd.
 31313 118 Ave
 Acheson, AB
 T7X 6M6

780-962-9297
 info@kiwinurseries.com
 www.kiwinurseries.com



What comes back to GCMS through this Fundraiser?

- Houseplants - 20-25%
- Decor - 20-25%
- Hardy Outdoor Plants 20-30%
- Veggies & Herbs - 25% back
- Gift Cards - 20% back



Inferno Sports

Extra curricular sports look a bit different at Greystone right now. We are hoping to get back to some more regular sport and other activities for our students as the year continues.

Thanks to everyone for supporting our program! Stay tuned to our [website](#) and [FB page](#), and the [Greystone Athletics FB](#) page for more details!

A special thank you to our School Council and FOGS, and our school community for their fundraising efforts. Because of you, we were able to get new jerseys this year!



GCMS Reminders and Updates



LUNCH ROUTINE

Students eat lunch with other students in their homeroom classroom from 12:45 to 1:15 pm (Gr. 6, 8) or 1:15-1:45 (Gr. 5, 7, 9). Students are also given an opportunity for recreation, which is generally outside from 12:45-1:10 (Gr. 5, 7, 9) or 1:15-1:40 (Gr. 6 & 8).

We expect students to stay in the assigned area for their grade level, as we are doing our best to keep students with their grade-level peers at breaks. Students are asked to maintain physical distance when possible and wear masks when they can't.

All students in Grades 5-8 are expected to remain on the school grounds, within boundaries, during recess time. Grade 9 students are able to go to the store, or to their own home, but are not to go to other students' homes for lunch.

At this point in time recess breaks are expected to be outside. The gym and library commons are not open to students at break times.

Students with the signed permission letter to go home for lunch must sign out and back in with the school office.

Students arriving after the bell must report to the office for a welcome slip before going to class.





GREYSTONE HOT LUNCH

The GCMS hot lunch program is operated through "The Lunch Lady". Ordering is now available for Fridays. Order by Wednesday for Friday's lunch.

The Lunch Lady Program follows all necessary food handling safety guidelines as well as additional Covid-19 safety measures. Food is individually packaged for each student.



INFERNO SPIRIT WEAR

Show your Greystone Centennial Middle School Inferno pride in custom Inferno Spirit Wear.

Shop the online apparel store for a wide selection of clothing, sportswear, gear, merchandise and accessories, including masks, t-shirts & shorts. You can shop, order and pay online. Orders are then shipped directly to your home.

Order today at <https://urstore.ca/greystone-centennial-school>.



This program gives a wide variety of choices for our students each week, including healthy choices, larger portions and smaller servings. Try a few new things! Try something tasty today at <https://order.lunchlady.ca>

Connect with us!

Visit our website at [greystone.psd70.ab.ca](https://www.greystone.psd70.ab.ca)

Like us on facebook: www.facebook.com/GCMMSGCMS

Follow us on Twitter @greystoneschool

"Around Greystone" #GoInferno

Our Grade 6s held a "Grand Council" as part of their learning about the Iroquois Confederacy. (Cohorted, outside & masked, of course)



Parkland School Division Treaty 6 Land Acknowledgement Poster contest GCMS winners are:

- Naiomi
- Capri
- Payton



The Grade 6 students worked on self-portraits by sketching from a picture of themselves and added a collage frame. These examples are from Mrs. Murphy's grade 6 class.



We would like to thank them for expressing their creativity and sharing with other the importance of what it means to be a Treaty person. You are helping us build positive relations between our Indigenous and non-Indigenous friends. Thank you to all of our other participants as well!

"Around Greystone" #GoInferno

un defile de mode!

Our students in French as a second language had some fun with their fashion shows for their "roches" this week. They used some amazing vocabulary, creativity, and art skills! There was even a red carpet and sparkly lights!!



"Omni Ball" 4-Square in PE!



Printmaking

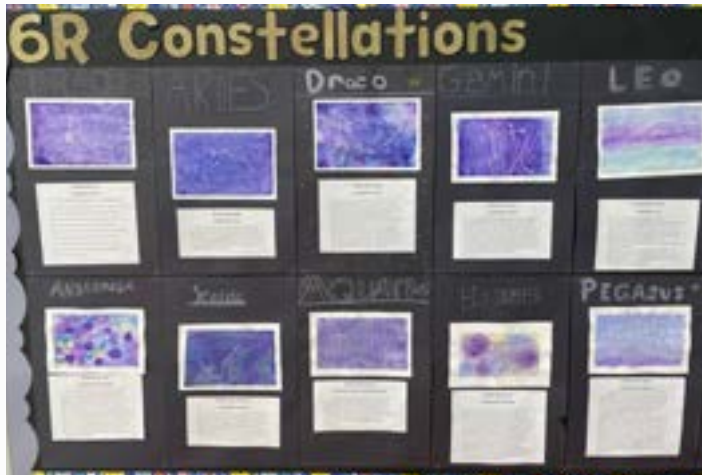


"Henna" Designs



"Around Greystone" #GoInferno

Constellation Artwork, combining Science, Art and LA outcomes.



PSD opened a poster contest to all PSD schools in October 2020 as a tangible way for students in Grades 4 – 12 to deepen their understanding of what it means to be a Treaty person and to showcase their creativity and artistic talents.

PSD has a new Land Acknowledgement and poster, with the artwork in the poster being contributed by Grade 12 student Taelin Bird, and text by Makena Keenan in Grade 9.



The new land acknowledgement is:



With peace, harmony and unity, we honour the land on which we stand as Treaty 6 territory. This is sacred land to many First Nation, Metis and Inuit, in particular our neighbours, Paul First Nation, Enoch Cree Nation, Alexis Nakota Sioux Nation, Alexander Cree Nation and our friends of the Metis Nation. We recognize and acknowledge Indigenous values, traditional teachings, ways of being, contributions and historical inequalities. We respect all cultures with an open heart and an open mind. We ALL heal together.

Dress for the Weather!

The weather can be unpredictable at this time of year, but students always need to be dressed appropriately in order to safely enjoy outdoor activities such as nutrition breaks, lunch breaks and physical education classes. A warm coat, mitts and hat are musts to wear and to keep in the backpack.

As the weather can be wet and the ground muddy it is increasingly important that students have a pair of outdoor shoes or boots that they change into in order to keep our floors dry, clean and safe. All students are expected to have a clean pair of indoor shoes for use in the gym.

If you are missing a jacket or sweatshirt, ask your child to check the lost and found. They are quite full already. Feel free to come in at the end of the day and check it yourself as well.



Upcoming Events

HOT LUNCH - <http://thelunchlady.ca>

Fridays - order by Wednesday

GCMS SCHOOL COUNCIL/FOGS

Tuesday, April 20 @6:30 pm

Tuesday, May 18 @6:30 pm

Tuesday, June 15 @6:30 pm

All welcome!

CASINO FUNDRAISER - CANCELLED

Thursday, Feb. 25-Friday, Feb. 26

SCHOLASTIC BOOK ORDERS (Library)

Due Mar. 24

Due April 28

Due May 19

Due June 16

STAFF PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT DAY

(No School for Students)

Tues. April 6

Fri. May 21

SPRING BREAK (includes Easter)

(No School for Students)

Friday, March 26 - Tuesday, April 7

VICTORIA DAY

(No School for Students)

Monday, May 24

GCMS Library Learning Commons

Be sure to check out the Scholastic Digital flyers, both for classroom essentials and the reading clubs!

<https://classroomessentials.scholastic.ca/s/cec-ca/en/digital-catalogues>

Books in English & French!

Celebrating Diverse Heroes, Stories & Authors

SCHOLASTIC VOICES

Reading Club February/March 2021
From mid-Feb to March 31, 2021

5 EASY STEPS!

- 1 Browse this flyer with your child.
- 2 To find the items on this flyer, search by title or item number on scholastic.ca/rc/diversebooks
- 3 Use your Teacher's Class Code on every order to give back to the classroom.
- 4 Books ship directly to your home!
- 5 Read with your child.

YOU'RE A READING HERO!

Diverse Books for All Ages!

Online orders can be placed anytime and delivered to your home

When you're checking out, please enter the CLASS CODE, this lets our school earn 20% of the order value in rewards, and you get free shipping on your order of \$40 or more. The rewards help us to purchase new materials for the GCMS Library Learning Commons.

Visit <https://classroomessentials.scholastic.ca/> to order

Mrs. Marshall will also take orders in person
(cash or cheque)

Orders due March 24th, April 28, May 19, June 16

(no shipping fees for orders through the library)

REGISTRATION

Online Registration/Verification

February 8–March 25 for the 2021–2022 School Year



Parkland School Division's annual online registration/verification process will be available beginning February 8, 2021. All Pre-Kindergarten to Grade 12 registrations for both new and returning students will be conducted online through the PowerRegistration portal for the 2021–2022 school year. All parents will be required to complete this online process each school year.

RETURNING STUDENTS - Parents/guardians can verify returning student information by following instructions sent to them via email from "PowerSchool Registration Support" <noreply@noreply.psr.support.com>

A 'Returning Student' is someone who has attended school in Parkland School Division or a student from another partner school division in the Regional Transportation system who has ridden on a PSD bus before. We already have data on file for these students from the 2020–2021 school year, but this data will have to be verified (and updated, if necessary) before these students can register for the 2021–2022 school year. If you did not receive an email, please check your "spam" or "junk" folder.

All parents are required to complete the registration process by 4:30 pm on March 25, 2021. This deadline allows us to determine the eligibility of bus pass applicants, the routing of buses, bus pass production and data verification before the summer break while schools are still operating.

Complete information on the registration process can be found on our [Registration page](#).





FCSS Programming

Spruce Grove Family and Community Support Services (FCSS) is a partnership between the City of Spruce Grove, Parkland County and the Government of Alberta. The mandate of FCSS is to provide locally-driven, preventative social programs and initiatives to enhance the well-being of individuals, families and the community. Our programs enable people of all ages to improve their quality of life and their ability to prevent and / or deal with crisis situations should they arise. Our support resources connect people with programs and services.

For more information visit our website at <https://www.sprucegrove.org/government/departments/community-and-protective-services/family-and-community-support-services-fcss/>

Supports for Students & Families

Crisis Hotlines

Most of these services are available 24/7 to both families and individuals in need. Click on the name of each service to learn more about it. Always call 9-1-1 if someone is in immediate danger.

Mental Health Help Line (24/7)

This helpline provides toll-free, 24/7 confidential and anonymous telephone service for Albertans with mental health concerns. Callers can get information about mental health programs and services, and be referred to other agencies if necessary.

Phone: 1-877-303-2642

Kids Help Phone (24/7)

Kids Help Phone is Canada's only 24/7, national support service. They offer professional and confidential counselling, information and referrals, and volunteer-led, text-based support to young people. You can connect with them by phone, text or live chat, whenever you want, however you want.

Phone: 1-800-668-6868

Text: Text CONNECT to 686868

Live Chat: kidshelpphone.ca

Provincial Support Line

Provides referrals to community and government support as well as social services

Phone: 211



Supports for Students & Families

Tri-Region Bunch

A network of youth-serving providers committed to connecting youth with activities, resources, and safe adults in the Tri-Region. Check out our [video](#) on the Community Compass and visit us at bit.ly/triregionbunch.

Youth Mental Health Clinic

The Youth Mental Health Clinic is a referral-based specialty clinic offering wrap-around mental health services for youth ages 11-25. The main focus for accessing the YMHC would be for diagnosing and managing ADHD, anxiety, and depression. Contact the Community Connectors listed below for your area. There is no longer walk-in therapy available.

Community Connectors

Community Connectors support youth ages 11-25 and their families in the Tri-region with accessing and navigating community and mental health supports and services by working collaboratively with a coalition of community stakeholders, social service agencies, and health care providers. Community Connectors work out of the Youth Mental Health Clinic, Parkland Area schools/outreaches, the Stony Plain Youth Centre, and the Lions Log Cabin Spruce Grove.

To access these services:

- **Prab** – Spruce Grove & Greater Parkland Area
 - email prab.gill@westviewpcn.ca or call/text 780-217-8701
- **Michelle**– Stony Plain & Greater Parkland Area
 - email michelle.enright@westviewpcn.ca or call/text 780-217-4146
- Check out the Community Connector Instagram [@triregioncc](#)



Caregiver Education Through AHS

- **Caregiver Education Sessions**
 - 90 minute online sessions intended to provide parents, caregivers, teachers, and community members with introductory information regarding mental health challenges that can affect children/youth.
- **Lunch & Learn Webinars**
 - 60 minute informational webinars for parents/caregivers who are looking to strengthen their child's/adolescent's ability to thrive through life's challenges and discover strategies that can help build resiliency.





Wise-Mind Wednesdays for Youth

March 24 to May 12 Spruce Grove FCSS and Stony Plain Youth Centre will be offering virtual programs for youth every Wednesday from 4:00 pm-5:30 pm. The programs are free, but registration is required. Once registered youth are able to access any or all of the Wise-Mind Wednesday programs.

These preventative programs will focus on creating a safe (virtual) space where youth can find community and build connections. Each week youth will have the opportunity to learn about new topics and develop useful life skills to strengthen their resiliency and increase their self-esteem.

Registration

To register for a program, visit sprucegrove.org/onlinereg or call 780-962-7618. For more information, please email fcss@sprucegrove.org

Find and follow them on Facebook, Instagram or Snapchat for up-to-date info and to find out what will be happening each week!



- Part 1: Understanding Anger – March 24
- Part 2: Setting Boundaries – March 31
- Part 3: Effective Listening – April 7
- Part 4: Respectful Assertiveness – April 14
- Navigating Change & Loss – April 21
- Super You - Learning to Self Empower – April 28
- Understanding Stress – May 5
- Social-Emotional Skills &* Strategies for Self Regulation – May 12



VIRTUAL PROGRAMS FOR YOUTH
now offered online

 @SPRUCEGROVEFCSSYOUTH

SPRUCEGROVE.ORG/YOUTH



Parkland School Division Strong Families Series:

Presented FREE in partnership with
Alberta Parenting for the Future

Supporting Emotional Regulation with Children on the Autism Spectrum

In our upcoming Strong Families session, registered psychologists Larissa Predy and Ashton Parker will offer families valuable information about emotional regulation and how it relates to the behaviour of children with Autism, as well as practical tips for supporting their children on the spectrum in managing their emotions, so they can respond appropriately to stressful stimuli and know how to cope when faced with something that upsets them. In this session, they will discuss strategies for improving perspective-taking and problem-solving skills, cognitive behavioural tools for dealing with "big" feelings and their related behaviours, and how to communicate and promote skill building in children with high needs.

Date: Wednesday, April 7, 2021

Time: 6:00 pm

Location: Online Zoom Webinar / Discussion Group

Presenter: Larissa Predy & Ashton Parker (Psychologists)
(Little Oaks Psychology)



Autism Society of Edmonton Area

<https://www.autismedmonton.org/programs-and-resources>

Occasio

- is a social-recreational respite program for children and youth on the autism spectrum. The junior group is for children ages 7-12; the senior group is for ages 13-18 (past program participants can choose which age group to stay with). Occasio means "opportunity" in Latin, and although opportunity looks different for each participant, the goal of the program is to provide opportunities for growth.

Community Connections

All Ages

- is a social-recreational community program for all ages. Community Connections Program includes recreational events and community outings that are hosted on weekends throughout the year and are open to everyone - individuals on the spectrum, their families members and caregivers.

Check out our website's event [calendar](#) to learn more.

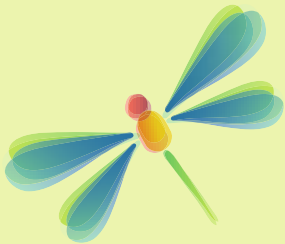
Call 780.453.3971 or email
info@autismedmonton.org

FEELING SICK? HERE'S WHAT TO DO

Updated February 18, 2021

You are legally required to self-isolate if:

- You test positive for COVID-19.
- You have a cough, fever, shortness of breath, loss of taste or smell that is not related to a pre-existing illness or health condition.
- You have been in contact with someone known to have COVID-19.
- You have travelled outside Canada within the last 14 days.



Close Contacts of Confirmed Cases

You are legally required to isolate for 14 days and monitor for symptoms if you are a close contact of a person who tested positive for COVID-19. A close contact is someone who provides care to, lives with, has close physical contact with of someone with COVID-19.

Please visit the [Parkland School Division](#) and [Greystone Centennial Middle School](#) websites for the most up-to-date information.

Additional information on school re-opening can be found on the Government of Alberta website in the [K to 12 school re-entry](#) section.

There may be some confusion as to when parents should keep their children home from school or when parents are allowed to return their children back to class. First and foremost, it is the parents' role to screen their child(ren) for symptoms every morning.

Each day before going to school:

Step 1 - Use the [COVID-19 Screening Questionnaire](#) (there is an over 18 version, and an under 18 version)

Step 2 - If you answer "Yes" to any of the questions, stay home and use the [AHS Online Self-Assessment Tool](#)

Step 3 - Follow the recommendations outlined by the self-assessment tool or take direction from your primary health care practitioner (family doctor)

For a helpful summary of this important information, please refer to [Parkland School Division's Stay At Home Guide](#).

STUDENTS WHO ARE NOT FEELING WELL SHOULD STAY HOME FROM SCHOOL.

According to Alberta Health Services guidelines, if a child develops symptoms that could be caused either by COVID-19 or by a known pre-existing condition (e.g. allergies, chronic cough), the child should be tested for COVID-19 to confirm that it is not the source of their symptoms before returning to school.

Thank you for helping to keep our school, staff, students and communities safe and healthy!